

GSCCCA Update

Vol. 20, No. 4
November 2016

An update on the activities of the Georgia Superior Court Clerks' Cooperative Authority

Board of Directors

Chairman:
F. Barry Wilkes
Clerk of Superior Court
Liberty County

Vice Chairman:
Jean H. Rogers
Clerk of Superior Court
Crisp County

Secretary/Treasurer:
Cindy Mason
Clerk of Superior Court
Columbia County

Charles Baker
Clerk of Superior &
State Courts, Hall County

Dana Chastain
Clerk of Superior Court
Fannin County

Connie H. Cheatham
Clerk of Superior Court
McDuffie County

W. Randolph Howard, Sr.
Chairman, Sumter
County Commission

Daniel W. Massey
Clerk of Superior Court
Chatham County

Brenda Weaver
Chief Judge
Superior Courts
Appalachian Judicial Circuit

James C. "Jim" Weidner
Attorney-at-Law
Oliver & Weidner, LLC
Clarkesville



GSCCCA
1875 Century Blvd
Suite 100
Atlanta, GA 30345
Tel: 404.327.9058
Tel: 800.304.5175
www.gsccca.org

Wilkes to retire after stellar career

After 31 years as clerk and court administrator for the Superior, State, Juvenile, and Magistrate Courts of Liberty County and 16 years on the Authority board, the last four as chairman, **The Honorable F. Barry Wilkes** is set to retire on December 31. To recognize this significant event, the Authority honored Barry at its October board meeting and presented him with a rare 1950 Limited Edition Club copy of the *Complete Poems of Robert Frost* in appreciation for his dedication and hard work on behalf of the clerk community and the Clerks' Authority. (The presentation remarks and photos are included on Pages 8-11.)

Barry once said, "I've always believed that when you are part of an organization, you should be involved, take part, and give back whenever and whatever you can." Barry has more than backed these words up with his actions, spending the last three decades fighting for clerks and ensuring that they have the resources to be successful and the ability to control their destiny.

As McDuffie County Superior Court Clerk Connie Cheatham once said,



"There is little in the 'clerk world' that Barry has not done or accomplished ... One of his best attributes is his ability to see into the future, plan for it, and take action on those plans ... Without his and others' foresight, most clerks' offices would not have the resources and technology they have today. He is a born leader who exemplifies exceptionalism, leadership, teamwork, commitment and accomplishment."

A native of southeastern Georgia and a graduate of Georgia Southern University, Barry was an educator for five years before becoming the assistant editor of a newspaper in Liberty County. He became the administrator of the six-county Atlantic Circuit District of Georgia public defender program before being elected Superior Court clerk of Liberty County in 1985.

He took office at a time when automation for clerks' offices and the courts was virtually nonexistent. It became his mission to automate his office, and over the next decade, he did just that, including the creation in 1994 of one of the state's first pc-based,

Continued on Page 6

October board meeting review

The Authority Board met on October 12 for its quarterly meeting. Following is a summary of the reports and actions of the meeting.

General Business:

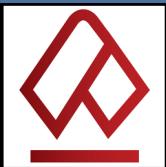
The July 13 board meeting minutes were approved. The 2016 Audit was presented and contains an unqualified opinion. This is the highest level of assurance that can be issued about an organization's internal financial controls. It was noted that restricted cash reflects funds designated for future payments of print fees to clerks. Net position increased approximately \$1M. For the August 2016 Financials, net position is up \$251, 000 compared to FYE June 30, 2016. The Authority remains in a strong financial position overall.



Motions Approved by the Board:

The following motions were approved by the board:

- A motion to adopt the Plat eFile Rules, effective January 1, 2017.
- A motion to adopt the amended URPERA Standards.
- A motion to adopt the 1991–1990 Historical Indexing Agreement (for clerks).



Fines & Fees Division:

It was reported that collections were slightly down for July but August rebounded. Compliance rates have been maintained at almost 100%. Only three letters had to be sent to non-complaint courts last month. Members of the Fines & Fees staff were commended for their hard work and diligence.

Training & Outreach Update:

It was reported that fifty-nine clerks and deputy clerks have now successfully passed the Indexing Standards Certification exam. It was also reported that notary training has been very successful throughout the state, and that only two more Real Estate Indexing Standards Training classes remain for 2016. It was announced that the Authority will offer training on plat eFiling and will conduct clerk interviews for the Authority website at the upcoming COAG Fall Conference. The Authority will also play a key role in the new clerks' training in December.

eFiling Project:

An update on the Authority's eFile Project was provided with the following participation numbers reported:

- Real Estate eFile – 64 counties
- UCC eFile – 98 counties
- Child Support eFile – 121 counties

UCC Project:

It was reported that the number of UCCs filed statewide for the first quarter of FY 2017 is keeping pace with the number filed during the same period of last fiscal year. FY 2016 saw the highest number of UCC filings since 2008. Certified Search requests continue to be a service that is utilized extensively.

Notary Division:

It was reported that notary commissions granted by clerks of Superior Court are on the increase. To date, 250 notary handbooks

Continued on Page 3

Board Meeting Review — Cont. from Page 2

have been shipped in relation to offering handbooks at a discounted rate to clerks of Superior Court, Mexico and Latin American countries lead in the number of apostille requests for destination countries. Corporate documents are the most popular type of document presented for the apostille.

Historical Deed Re-Indexing Projects:

It was reported that there are currently 41 counties participating in the voluntary County-Funded Historical Deed, Lien and Plat Re-Indexing Project – of which 12 cover the 1991 -90 filing years that will be reimbursed by the Authority as a result of the Board of Directors' decision to sponsor payment for those years. Only one county remains until all of 1992 is completed. Staff was complimented for diligence and hard work.

Subscriber Services:

It was reported that there are 15,319 total search accounts, of which 3,208 are Premium account holders. New Premium accounts are

currently growing at a 12.5% rate. The growth for new Regular accounts remains steady.

Special Presentation Honoring Chairman Barry Wilkes:

Authority Executive Director John Earle made comments and a special presentation to Chairman Wilkes, who is retiring as of December 31, 2016. On behalf of the Authority, Earle presented a gift in recognition of Wilkes' tireless efforts and contributions to the clerks' community and the Clerks' Authority over his years of service. Wilkes addressed the meeting attendees and thanked everyone for the gift. He made mention of his thirty-three years of service and how he will miss his friends more than anything else.

Next Board Meeting:

The next quarterly board meeting will be held on January 17-18, 2017 at the Authority office. ■

Learn about eAssist ... the Authority's plat eFiling program

With plat eFiling becoming **mandatory effective January 1, 2017**, the Authority has written a program to allow clerks to accept plat eFilings. The program, called **eAssist**, may be installed remotely by our HelpDesk. The Authority is offering four, one-hour webinar training classes on eAssist. Training will include how to register, email notifications, retrieving, and accepting or rejecting eFiled plats. Training dates are below with all classes being held from 10:00-11:00am.

- Tuesday, November 29
- Wednesday, November 30
- Thursday, December 15
- Friday, December 16

To attend, register with Rachel Rice at rachel.rice@gsccca.org or 404-327-7322.



Historical Project progressing

The Authority-sponsored **2017 Re-Indexing Project For 1991–1990 Historical Deeds** is progressing as scheduled. The Authority staff has previously communicated with all clerks' offices to be included in the upcoming project which was approved by the Authority board in April.

The Authority requested vendor applications from all vendors who have certified indexing systems in Georgia to participate in the 1991–1990 Historical Indexing Project. Applications from those vendors choosing to submit an application have been reviewed. The vendors below have signed agreements with the Authority and are approved for this project:

- Digital Information Systems Company, LLC
- Mainstreet Technologies, Inc.
- Micropact Global, Inc.
- Team IA, Inc.

Please note that this approved list applies only to this one specific project and does not apply to any other project. Additionally, the appearance of a vendor on this list is not an

endorsement by the Authority of any vendor or indicative of vendor skills or ability. Clerks should make a vendor choice carefully considering all factors and information available. Other Georgia vendors with certified indexing systems either chose not to submit an application to participate or did not execute the agreement with the Authority within the required timelines.

Clerks may contact any of the vendors listed above to arrange for 1991 and 1990 deed docket instruments to be imaged and indexed. The services of the vendor will be paid for by the Authority. Clerks who want to perform the imaging and indexing in-house without the assistance of a vendor should contact Gary Yates or John Earle to discuss that option.

The goal is for this project to be well underway during the first quarter of 2017. Thus, all applicable clerks should make a vendor choice as soon as practical. When the vendor selection has been made, designations should be emailed to gary.yates@gsccca.org. Designations must be made by the clerk in office as of January 1, 2017. In instances where there

will be a new clerk in office in 2017, the designation must wait until the new clerk has taken office.

Authority teaches seminar at UGA Law School

Authority Communications Director & Compliance Officer Mike Smith taught a UCC seminar at UGA Law School in September. Professor Jim Smith invites Mike every

year when he's teaching secured transactions to his second and third year law students. The Authority then provides free accounts to the students for the remainder of the semester so they can complete a project.



As mentioned in previous communications, all future historical indexing will require that a docket survey be submitted and that the GSCCCA has issued indexing directions before imaging and indexing may begin. For clerks who have not submitted their docket survey, please do so as soon as possible. ■



Authority offers programs at COAG

Vendor Plat eFile Demonstrations

As in the spring, the Authority will host vendor demonstrations of plat eFiling in our computer lab at the upcoming COAG Fall Conference. Vendors who are integrated with the Authority's eFile portal, <https://efile.gsccca.org>, will provide 30-minute demonstrations on how to retrieve, receipt, and process plat eFilings. Below is the schedule for vendor presentations.

- Nov 14 – 4:15-4:45pm – Cott
- Nov 15 – 8:15-8:45am – Mainstreet
- Nov 15 – 4:15-4:45pm – Icon
- Nov 16 – 8:15-8:45am – Micropact
- Nov 16 – 5:15-5:45pm – Xerox

The Authority's computer lab will be in the Plaza Room at the Marriott. Join us and learn more about plat eFiling.

Bulk Lien eFile Demonstrations

The Authority will demonstrate bulk lien eFiling to tax commissioners at the upcoming COAG Fall Conference. As part of the program, Authority Project Manager Rachel Rice will provide the following:

- step-by-step instructions on getting started;
- a review of the requirements to eFile; and
- a presentation on using the Authority portal, <https://efile.gsccca.org>, to submit bulk lien eFilings.

The program will be held on Thursday, November 17, from 9:00-10:00 a.m.

Handbooks offered to clerks at reduced rate

Over the years, the Authority board and staff have made educating Georgia's notaries public a priority. Because of the efforts of clerks of Superior Court in hosting notary classes, promoting the Georgia Notary Handbook, and disseminating information, notaries are offered more educational opportunities than ever before.

In that spirit of education, the Clerks' Authority is now offering the Georgia Notary Handbook to clerks of Superior Court at a reduced rate for re-sale. With a minimum order of ten (10) handbooks, the new, reduced price for clerks is \$8 per book. (We recommend that you sell the handbooks for \$10 to be consistent with the same price on www.gsccca.org.) This will allow clerks to more quickly put the handbook in the hands of notary applicants.

To get started, simply complete the order form in the Clerk Resource Center and return to the Authority via email (peter.keesom@gsccca.org), fax (404-327-7887) or USPS (GSCCCA, Attn: Notary Division, 1875 Century Blvd., Suite 100, Atlanta, GA 30345). No need to send payment now. The Authority will send an invoice with the shipment.



Wilkes to Retire — Cont. from Page 1

local-area-networks for Georgia's courts. Barry also developed one of the nation's first court websites, which he continues to provide and maintain for public convenience.

"I realized that being clerk was much more than just a job; it is a position which enables me to help people ... As clerk, I've been able to accomplish a lot for a lot of people, so that's why I enjoy my job so much. I can't imagine doing anything else."

— F. Barry Wilkes

Barry helped create and served as the inaugural president of the Council of Superior Court Clerks of Georgia and was one of the architects of the Georgia Superior Court Clerks' Cooperative Authority, serving as its inaugural executive director and twice more as interim director. In 2000, he was appointed to the Authority's board and was elected vice chairman in 2001, and chairman in 2012.

After being elected Authority chairman, Barry observed, "It is a tremendous honor that my fellow board members selected me to chair the board, but it is a great responsibility that I do not take lightly. As I said back in 2000 when I became a member of the board, I am deeply committed to the Authority, what it has accomplished since its creation, and what it is doing for those of us in the trenches who are trying to provide excellent services to the citi-

zens of our counties without putting more tax burden on their backs."

Among other professional and civic positions he has held, Barry has served as president of the County Officers' Association of Georgia, president of the Superior Court Clerks' Association of Georgia, on the board of the National Association of Court Management, chairman of the Liberty County Records Advisory Board, and chairman of the Mary Lou Fraser Community Support Foundation.

Among his many accolades, Barry was the recipient of the Superior Court Clerk of the Year Award in 1993; was named County Constitutional Officer of the Year of Georgia in 1993; and, in 2013, was presented the first-ever Lifetime Achievement Award by the Superior Court Clerks' Assn of Georgia. In the words of his late friend and former Authority chairman, Tom Lawler, the award was conveyed to Barry for "more than 25 years of service, dedication, inspiration and extraordinary leadership given to the Superior Court Clerks of Georgia, for the guidance that allowed his peers to excel in the areas of legislation, education and technology and, most importantly, for providing to Superior Court Clerks of Georgia a special vision of the future that

must only come from God-given talents." Barry considered receiving the award "one of the greatest honors ever bestowed upon me."



Barry was also awarded the prestigious ÉCLAT Award by his peers in 2013 and 2015. Created by the Superior Court Clerks' Association of Georgia, the award recognizes Superior Court clerks for exceptional commitment, leadership, accomplishment and teamwork. Barry earned the 2013 award for his work on revising and modernizing Title 15 of the Official Code of Georgia as it relates to the duties and responsibilities of Superior Court

Continued on Page 7



Wilkes to Retire — Cont. from Page 6

clerks. HB 665 was enormous in scope, and many doubted that it would pass. But as many have noted, Barry doesn't know the word "can't," and after a long, hard battle, the bill did pass.

The 2015 award was bestowed in appreciation for the work Barry did in crafting SB 135 and pushing for its passage. Barry has been involved in important legislative battles throughout his time in office, but SB 135 stands out as one of the most significant because of its impact on the future of clerks of Superior Court. In Barry's own words:

"What began as a notion is now law, thus saying to the world that clerks of Superior Court are undeniably the sole and official custodians of all records of their offices and that no one can legally usurp our role as such."

In addition to being recognized by his clerk family, Barry has also been honored for his local work and commitment to Liberty County. In 2014, Barry's constituency voted him the county's Best Boss and Best Public Servant and named his office the Best Place to Work in the county. Barry regularly teaches courses to Superior Court clerks, attorneys, bankers, title abstractors, and other professionals. He is a published poet and author and an accomplished self-taught photographer, painter, and wood-worker. He and his wife, Janelle, have two children, Rick and Wade, and four grandchildren.

When asked years ago why he



enjoyed being clerk, Barry responded: "I realized that being clerk was much more than just a job; it is a position which enables me to help people ... As clerk, I've been able to accomplish a lot for a lot of people, so that's why I enjoy my job so much. I can't imagine doing anything else."

For clerks, Authority staff, and others who have had the privilege to work with Barry over the past three decades, it's hard to imagine him doing anything else as well, but that will soon be the reality as his retirement approaches. Thank you, Honorable F. Barry Wilkes, for the indelible mark you have left on our clerk community. Your legacy will live on and will continue to greatly benefit clerks for generations to come. ■

“ The contributions made by Barry Wilkes to every organization for Superior Court clerks are immeasurable. His vision and tireless efforts will have a lasting impact on and for Superior Court clerks in the State of Georgia. He has generously given of his time and talents for the citizens of Liberty County, his fellow Superior Court clerks and for citizens throughout the State of Georgia.” — Jean Rogers, Clerk of Superior Court, Crisp County

“ When I think of leadership a number of terms come to mind. Intelligent, Disciplined, Courageous, Dedicated, Determined, Resourceful, Inspired, Creative, Savvy, Persistent, Visionary and Compassion. Each of these terms apply to Barry Wilkes. We are thankful that he has applied each of these qualities as a leader for the betterment of Superior Court Clerks and the State of Georgia.” — Gary Yates

“ Barry ... Your contribution to Clerks of Superior Court is irreplaceable. Your dedication is immeasurable. Your guidance invaluable. Your legacy is eternal. Thank you for sharing your unmatched brilliance and wisdom my friend. Best wishes for a healthy and happy retirement.” — Greg Allen, Clerk of Superior and State Courts, Forsyth County



Gift presentation to F. Barry Wilkes

As Barry turns new pages in his life, retiring as Liberty County clerk after over 30 years, and retiring as GSCCCA Board Chairman, after serving as a board member

for 16 years, one asks, "what, besides a crystal gavel or a brass plaque, can we give Barry to demonstrate how much his service has been valued and that will provide him a measure of personal pleasure in the years ahead?" It's not an easy question.

We all know Barry as a tireless public servant with many dimensions. He's also a community leader, an active church member, a pioneer of technology, a legislator, an educator, and not lastly, a photographer, artist, woodworker, farmer and poet. With all these dimensions to his character, it is no wonder that Barry especially appreciates the power of the written word.

Barry brings to mind another American writer, farmer and poet. Robert Frost is highly regarded for his realistic depictions of rural life. Frost always wanted to be a farmer. He bought a farm in Vermont and lived long stretches in isolation there. It was said, however, that he did not like to rise early and the cows were usually not milked until noon. It's a good thing Barry has horses. One of the most popular and critically respected American poets of the twentieth century, Robert Frost was honored frequently during his lifetime, receiving four Pulitzer Prizes for Poetry.

In 1929, during the period of Frost's writing, a publisher named George Macy created the

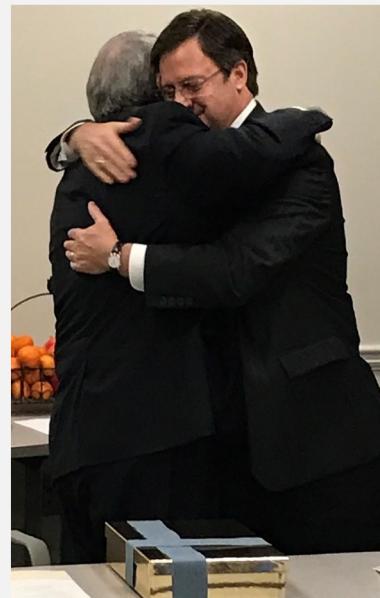
In recognition of his approaching retirement, Chairman F. Barry Wilkes was honored at the Authority's October board meeting and presented with a rare 1950 Limited Edition Club copy of the *Complete Poems of Robert Frost*. The following comments were made by Executive Director John Earle during the presentation ceremony.

Limited Edition Club. The mission was to produce beautiful but limited copies of great literature. Famous authors were presented in books styled

by well-known book designers and illustrated by top artists. Printings were limited to 1500 books, each one signed by the author, illustrator and book designer. In 1950, the Limited Edition Club awarded Robert Frost its gold medal after his Pulitzer Prize for the *Complete Poems*, and chose Frost as their featured author. Today that limited edition, two-volume set has become a rare, collectible publication.

To send Barry off with a memorable expression of our esteem, we have for him a rare 1950 Limited Edition Club copy of the *Complete Poems of Robert Frost*. This copy is

Continued on Pages 9, 10 & 11

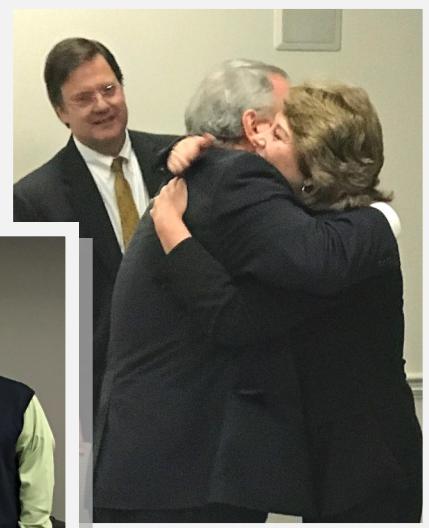


An emotional Barry Wilkes hugs John Earle in the photo to the left, and, above, poses with John Myers and his rare poetry collection.



Wilkes' Presentation — Cont. from Page 8

To the right, Barry hugs Authority Vice Chairman Jean Rogers, and, below, poses with members of the Authority staff.



“ What can I say about Barry to sum up what he has meant to the Superior Court Clerks of this state. It's a very difficult thing to do. What first comes to mind is Barry's passion to improve the work life of Clerks. His uncanny ability to see into the future, while also keeping past traditions in mind, has proved to be invaluable in upholding the best interest of Superior Court Clerks and to safeguarding our offices as well as moving us into a new era of technology. Over the years he has spent countless hours writing legislation and fighting for us at the capitol. He has been fearless in the defense of Clerks. Barry's compassion for his fellow clerks should also be mentioned. His creation of the Superior Court Clerks' Benevolent Fund has assisted an untold number of the clerk family in times of need. Barry has been a great friend to many and I can personally say has been my friend for 25+ years. His achievements and accomplishments will be with us for many years to come.” — Connie Cheatham, Clerk of Superior Court, McDuffie County

“ During my 12.5 years at the Authority, I've had the opportunity to work closely with Barry on a number of issues, and I've found him to be a man of vision, passion, intelligence, thoughtfulness, and compassion which have served him well in helping lead the clerks and the GSCCCA. For years, Barry has fought the intense battles and wars in helping protect and promote the interests of the clerks and the Authority while often making personal sacrifices to do so. As Barry now enters a new chapter in his life and leaves behind a legacy of great gains for us all, it will be of paramount importance that we protect those gains and seek out new gains for the benefit of those who will one day follow. Thank you, Barry, for the example that you've set for us all and for all that you've done to make our jobs and those that we serve better.” — John Earle, Executive Director, GSCCCA



Wilkes' Presentation — Cont. from Page 9

“ Barry (along with Woodson) was one of the first people I met with the Authority, and it is from that association over the last 20 years that I most know Barry. Woodson was the syrup but Barry was the hammer in many of the important activities of the Authority. Barry is one of a small number of people who comprehend the ‘big picture’ in addition to the intricate details that make that picture big. He is a man of action and the actions are always focused on progress, success and the advancement of the Authority and Clerks as a body. A common image of Barry in action is constant motion, moving from person to person, engaging them in the process and cementing each step of a project into place until results have been achieved. Over these many years, he has probably sacrificed much of his health and personal well-being to this relentless work for the common good of Clerks and most likely his retirement will reveal how significant that achievement has been, as others are called on to pick up the mantle. Barry reminds me of an elementary school principle that I had, who saw me looking at an educational direction that he knew was not the best for me. He called me in to say I needed to choose another path, which I fortunately did. Some people can see what’s better for us individually and collectively than we ourselves do. Barry is just such a person.” — John Myers, President, Millennium Information Tek

“ Working with Barry over the last twenty-five years has taught me two things: ‘Big goals lead to big accomplishments’ and ‘never underestimate what can be accomplished if you work hard enough.’ During my first decade as lobbyist for clerks, I was proved wrong time and again after advising ‘Barry, there’s no way the legislature is going to let us do that.’ Thanks Barry, to say I’ll miss you doesn’t come close to capturing the impact of your retirement.” — Mike Holiman, Executive Director, Council of Superior Court Clerks of Georgia.



Barry poses with Authority Secretary/Treasurer Cindy Mason in the photo above, and with Mike Holiman and Wright Banks, assistant attorney general, in the photo below.

even more unique than being just one of 1500 copies. It is one of only 15 “presentation” copies from the files of the publisher, George Macy, whose initials are on the colophon page along with the signature of Robert Frost, illustrator Thomas Nason, and book designer Bruce Rogers. The two volumes are in “fine” condition with the original marbled slip cover. As an unexpected bonus, the original July 1950 newsletter detailing the planning and production of the book is also included.

We hope that as Barry turns the pages of this work of literary history, it will bring him many moments of comfort and inspiration, and provide a lasting connection to his friends here at the Authority. As Robert Frost said in *The Road Not Taken*:

*“Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.” ■*



Wilkes' Presentation — Cont. from Page 10



To the left, Barry hugs Dana Chastain, a member of the Authority board, and, above, poses with more members of the Authority staff.

“Mr. Wilkes is truly the most innovative clerk throughout the state. In 1986, he was the first Clerk in Georgia to have his office completely automated...for which my fingers are grateful. I'm so thankful to Mr. Wilkes for having faith in me and taking me under his wing and giving me the opportunity to grow in knowledge and understanding of every intricate aspect of the clerk's office. Thank you for your awesome leadership, vision and abundant wisdom you bestowed upon me throughout the years. It's through that leadership that made me the leader I am today. Thank you, my faithful and loyal friend.” — Linda Thompson, Chief Deputy Clerk of Superior Court & Clerk-elect of Liberty County.

“Throughout my entire tenure with the Clerks' Authority, I've been impressed and inspired by the leadership of Barry Wilkes. Barry leads with conviction and passion while managing to stay rooted in the facts and reality of the situation. He is not afraid to take a stand on polarizing issues, and is simply one of the strongest advocates there is with regard to advancing the service and efficiency of the office of Superior Court Clerk. Barry has a keen vision of the future that is shaped by his substantial experience and the challenges he has overcome in the past. As such, when Barry speaks, others tend to listen and strongly consider his words even when they disagree with him. In my role as IT Director, I constantly admire how Barry routinely leverages technology in innovative ways to advance the interests of the clerks and the public at large.”

— Andy Wightwick, IT Director, GSCCCA



Final push to replace Windows XP PCs

After 13 long years, Microsoft has ended support for Windows XP as of April 2014. This means that Microsoft has stopped issuing patches for security vulnerabilities and has stopped providing technical support for Windows XP. This also means that many third-party software vendors have stopped supporting their applications on Windows XP and, as time

moves on, more and more vendors will follow suit. This lack of support from third-party vendors means that they also won't fix new security vulnerabilities or provide technical assistance for their software. One of these vendors is TrendMicro which provides OfficeScan, our antivirus software. TrendMicro will end support for OfficeScan on Windows XP at the end of this year meaning that they will stop updating the software with daily malware updates. There are approximately 869,000 new malware threats released every day. If any of these new threats target an unpatched Windows XP PC, unpatched application, or out-of-date antivirus software, then that system will be infect-

ed with malware with little hope for recovery since it is all unsupported.



The Clerks' Authority is committed to ensuring the security and reliability of all the PCs on its network and has been replacing Windows XP PCs with Windows 7 PCs for several years. In May of this year, the Clerks' Authority

kicked off the final push to replace all of the remaining Windows XP PCs. Sharon Fort has contacted all 159 counties and the response has been encouraging. Ninety-seven counties are 100% Windows XP free, so only 62 counties remain. **If you still have any XP PCs in your office that need to be sent back to the GSCCCA, please contact Sharon Fort as soon as possible.** The replacement process is the same as the process used when we replace PCs that are out-of-warranty. Once the PCs have been identified at the county, Sharon will work with staff to have new Windows 7 PCs shipped to them, and coordinate the

return of the Windows XP PCs back to the Authority. Throughout the entire process, our HelpDesk is always available to assist and answer any questions you may have. (Contact HelpDesk by calling 800-304-5174 or 404-327-9760 or emailing help@gsccca.org.)

Working together, this final transition from Windows XP to Windows 7 (and beyond) will be a smooth and seamless process. ■



Training offered

Kudos to Dena Adams, clerk of Superior Court of White County, for opening up her courthouse to host two training sessions on October 13. Pictured to the left, Authority program assistant, Will Dunn, is shown teaching a Real Estate Indexing Standards Training class

with 15 clerks' office staff members attending. A Notary Public Training class was also taught to over 35 members of the public.

